

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 NIC-01 PC-04 RSR-01 IO-12 /116 W

----- 126572

R 220440 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

SECSTATE WASHDC 7213

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 KARACHI 0817

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: BALUCHISTAN CONTINUES TO BUBBLE

REF: KARACHI 0729

BEGIN SUMMARY: LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN HAS WORSENERD AS PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION NEARS. EIGHT MEMBERS OF SECURITY FORCES REPORTED KILLED BY MARRI TRIBESMEN AND MENGAL TRIBESMEN ALLEGEDLY ATTACKED KALAT OFFICIAL AND PARTY. BUGTI GOVERNMENT, CITING ABOVE INCIDENTS, HAS STEPPED UP ITS VIGOROUS ATTACKS ON NAP AIMS, LEADERS, ASSOCIATES. NAP COUNTERATTACK APPEARS TO BE GROWING A BIT HYSTERICAL. INCIDENTS, AS DESCRIBED, APPEAR OMINOUS FOR LAW AND ORDER BUT THEY MAY HAVE BEEN EMBELLISHED BY GOB TO SET THE STAGE FOR JUNE 15 PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING PRESS ACCOUNTS (APPARENTLY BASED ENTIRELY ON GOB PRESS NOTE) EIGHT JAWANS OF THE DIR SCOUTS (A SECURITY FORCE UNDER GOP DIRECTION) WERE KILLED IN AMBUSH MAY 18 NEAR TANDORI, SIBI, BY GROUP OF MARRI " NAP TRAINED GUERRILLAS" ARMED WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS
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" PROVIDED BY FOREIGN ENEMIES WHO HAVE BEEN POURING IN ARMS AND MONEY IN BALUCHISTAN". PRESS NOTE CITED SIMILAR RECENT ATTACKS IN SAME AREA AND ALLEGED THAT AMBUSHERS WERE " UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION" OF MEHARULLAH MENGAL, BROTHER OF EX- CHIEF MINISTER ATAULLAH MENGAL AND THAT ATTACKS GUIDED BY ATAULLAH HIMSELF. ON SAME DAY AS TANDORI INCIDENT, ADDITIONAL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF KALAT AND HIS PARTY, WHO WERE UNDER ESCORT BY PLATOON OF BALUCHISTAN " RESERVE POLICE", WERE ATTACKED BY LARGE GROUP OF " MENGAL GUERRILLAS" NEAR MASHKAI. ADC AND PARTY RETURNED FIRE, DRIVING GUERRILLAS AWAY, LEAVING BEHIND THEIR " EAT-TABLES, CHAPPALS, TURBANS, AND OTHER ARTICLES". NO INJURIES REPORTED. GOB ALSO MENTIONED OTHER INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE AND SABOTAGE ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED BY MARRI/ MENGAL MEN DURING PAST SEVERAL DAYS. REPORT WHICH APPEARED FIRST IN URDU- LANGUAGE JANG STATES 14 KILLED IN CLASH MAY 19 BETWEEN MARRI GUERRILLAS AND MILITIA NEAR HARNAI, SIBI, BUT LATER AND STILL FRAGMENTARY REPORTS CALL ATTACKERS " ARMED BANDITS".

2. SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO GOVERNOR BUGTI TOLD NEWSMEN MAY 19 THAT FURTHER DISTURBANCES OF LAW AND ORDER IN PROVINCE WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED, WARNED MARRIS/ MENGALS THAT SEVERE ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM, AND CONDEMNED NAP FOR ITS " SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES". HIS ATTACK ON NAP ECHOED MAY 14 STATEMENT RELEASED BY GOVERNOR BUGTI RAPPING NAP FOR " DESTRUCTIVE DESIGNS AIMED AT DISINTEGRATING PAKISTAN". GOVERNOR BUGTI ALSO RESURRECTED " LONDON PLAN" STORY OF PLOT HATCHED BY WALI KHAN, ABDUL GHAFAR KHAN, MENGAL, OTHERS TO DISMEMBER COUNTRY.

3. GOVERNOR BUGTI CONTINUED ATTACK ON NAP LEADERSHIP IN LAHORE MAY 18 WHEN HE TOLD NEWSMEN PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR QUETTA THAT " BIGGEST HURDLE" TO NAP " EVIL DESIGNS" TO DISINTEGRATE COUNTRY WAS SHAH OF IRAN, HENCE VEHEMENT NAP ATTACKS ON SHAH. BUGTI ALSO TERMED LONDON INTERVIEW IN WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY DISCUSSED DISINTEGRATION OF PAKISTAN " PURE FABRICATION", CALLED WALI KHAN " AN INVETERATE LIAR, BAD LOSER, REJECTED POLITICIAN, AND DEFEATED MANIPULATOR".

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4. NAP ATTEMPTING FIGHT BACK. FORMER BALUCHISTAN GOVERNOR BIZENJO ISSUED LENGTHY PRESS STATEMENT IN KARACHI MAY 21 APPEALING TO PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN TO RESCUE THEIR COMPATRIOTS IN BALUCHISTAN, ALLEGING THAT BUGTI GOVERNMENT WAS ENDEAVORING CREATE CONDITONS IN WHICH CONFRONTATION BETWEEN " FEDERAL FORCES" AND PEOPLE OF

PROVINCE WOULD BE INEVITABLE. BIZENJO ACCUSED
BUGTI OF PURSUING THE POLICY OF DISINTEGRATING PAKISTAN
REVEALED IN BUGTI LONDON INTERVIEW (DISMISSED AS
FABRICATION BY BUGTI THREE DAYS EARLIER). BIZENJO SAID
BALUCHISTAN GOVERNMENT HAD SUSPENDED FOOD SUPPLIES TO
SECTIONS OF PROVINCE AND WAS USING FEDERAL FORCES IN
ATTEMPT ACHIEVE POLITICAL AIMS THAT MINORITY GOVERNMENT
COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH OTHERWISE. STATEMENT VIGOROUSLY
DENIED THAT THERE WERE ARMED GUERRILLAS OR
SECESSIONIST FORCES IN BALUCHISTAN " EXCEPT IN MR. BUGTI' S
WILD IMAGINATION". BUGTI IS SEEING MENGAL TRIBESMEN
WHERE NONE " HAS EVER SET HIS FOOT", ACCUSED BIZENJO.
HE SAID GOVERNOR WAS TRYING TO PROMOTE CONDITIONS
IN WHICH HIS GOVERNMENT COULD REMAIN IN POWER REGARDLESS
WHAT ACTION UPCOMING SESSION OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY
WOULD TAKE.
TIGER

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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R 220440 Z MAY 73
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE
SECSTATE WASHDC 7214

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5. COMMENT: SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN REMAINS CLOUDY.
CLEAR ONLY THAT BOTH SIDES BECOMING INCREASINGLY
DESPERATE AS PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION APPROACHES.
WE HAD CONSIDERED IT MOST UNLIKELY MARRI OR MENGAL
TRIBESMEN WOULD ATTACK LAW AND ORDER FORCES CONTROLLED
BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ON SCALE ALLEGED WITHOUT
ENCOURAGEMENT FROM LEADERS AND WE HAD ASSUMED NAP
LEADERS WOULD DESIST FROM INCITING SUCH ATTACKS BECAUSE
OF LIKELIHOOD THEY WOULD PROVIDE SUCH EFFECTIVE AMMUNITION

FOR GOB AND PERHAPS GOP TO ATTACK NAP. VIOLENT
INCIDENTS OF TYPE ALLEGED BY GOP PRESS NOTE NOT UNUSUAL
IN BALUCHISTAN, BUT SO WELL- ORGANIZED A TRIBAL ATTACK AS
THE SIBI INCIDENT (IF IT IN FACT HAPPENED AS DESCRIBED)
REMINISCENT OF EARLY 1960' S TROUBLES IN PROVINCE. ONE THING
IS CLEAR: WHETHER INCIDENTS ACTUALLY HAPPENED AS REPORTED,
OR WHETHER INVENTED (OR EMBELLISHED) BY GOB, THEY
ARE BEING WELL EXPLOITED TO CREATE A PROPERLY ANTI- NAP
ATMOSPHERE FOR THE BALUCHISTAN ASSEMBLY SESSION SCHEDULED
FOR MID- JUNE, BY WHICH TIME THE JAM SAHIB GOVERNMENT
WILL HAVE TO TURN ITS MINORITY INTO A MAJORITY.
TIGER

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